

Policy for the use of pesticides [including herbicides] on Chelmsford City Council land

The presumption is that pesticides will not be used on Chelmsford City Council land.

The only exceptions to this are set out below. The use of pesticides in these circumstances are only permitted as a last resort, where other cultural / non-chemical solutions are not possible or have not proved to be effective:

- a) Where there is a need to control the spread of or eradicate invasive or noxious weeds where chemical treatment is the only or most effective solution. This includes weeds such as Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) and Common Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)
- b) The application of fungicides and selective herbicides to specialist sports surfaces to treat fine turf disease and broadleaf weeds which might otherwise render the sports surfaces not fit for purpose or unplayable
- c) The application of fungicides to decorative roses in memorial area such as the garden of remembrance, which otherwise would not flourish
- d) The targeted use of herbicides for the control of weed growth in hard surfaces and around some mowing obstructions / margins where it is impracticable or unaffordable to use mechanical means. In these circumstances the only product used will be a systemic or translocated herbicide, which does not persist in contact with the ground and applied only by hand using a controlled droplet applicator

Biological pest control will be used in all indoor plant production / green house and polytunnel growing areas to avoid the use of pesticides